

## Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AF-08 DHA-02 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00  
COME-00 EB-08 FRB-01 INR-07 NSAE-00 SP-02 STR-04  
TRSE-00 LAB-04 SIL-01 OMB-01 IO-13 /070 W  
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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3239  
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UNCLAS EC BRUSSELS 02393

E.O. 11652:N/A  
TAGS:SHUM,UG,EEC  
SUBJECT: UGANDA AND HUMAN RIGHTS AT THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

1.EUROPEAN PARLIAMENTARIANS TOOK THE OFFENSIVE ON TWO  
OCCASIONS DURING THEIR MARCH 7-11 SITTING IN STRASBOURG  
TO VOICE CRITICISM OF WHAT ONE DEPUTY CALLED THAT " EVIL,  
BLOODY,VICIOUS REGIME" IN KAMPALA.THE QUESTON POSED  
BY PARLIAMENTARIANS IN BOTH CASES WAS THE SAME: " WHAT FINANCIAL OR  
OTHER ASSISTANE,DIRECT OR INDIRECT,WAS GIVEN TO THE RECENT CONFERENCE  
HELD IN KAMPALA UNDER THE LOME CONVENTION?" THE ANSWER BY JOHN TOM-  
LINSON (REPRESENTING THE UK EC COUNCIL PRESIDENCY)WAS THAT THERE  
WAS NO ASSISTANCE FROM THE EC OF ANY SORT,SINCE THIS WAS SOLELY A  
MEETING OF THE COUNCIL OF ACP STATE MINISTERS TO  
DISCUSS THEIR FORTHCOMING MEETING WITH EC MINISTERS.  
PRESSED BY SIR GEOFFREY DE FREITAS (UK SOCIALIST)AS TO  
WHETHER THE EC COUNCIL HAS REACHED CONCLUSION ABOUT THE  
DENIAL OF HUMAN RIGHTS IN UGANDA,TOMLINSON REPLIED  
THE COUNCIL PER SE HAD OT DISCUSSED THE QUESTION,  
WHICH WAS PROPERLY AN ISSUE TO BE DEALT WITH THROUGH  
THE EC POLITICAL COOPERATION MACHINERY.HOWEVER REPUGNANT THE ACTIONS  
INVOLVED,HE COMMENTED,THE EC MEMBER STATES ARE ALL SIGNATORIES TO  
THE LOME CONVENTION WHICH IMPOSES CERTAIN LEGAL OBLIGATIONS,  
AND AS LONG AS UGANDA REMAINS PARTY TO THE CONVENTION,  
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THE COMMUNITY IS IN FACT BOUND TO FULFILL THOSE  
OBLIGATIONS.

2.THE SAME QUESTION PUT LATER TO EC COMMISSIONER  
CLAUDE CHEYSSON PRODUCED A CONFIRMATORY DENIAL OF  
ASSISTANCE TO THE UGANDA MEETING -- AS WELL AS AN

EXPRESSION OF THE COMMISSON'S " DISGUST  
AND INDIGNATION" OVER EVENTS IN UGANDA.THE LOME CONVENTION,  
CHEYSSON EXPLAINED,CONTAINED NO PROVISION WHICH  
MIGHT ALLOW THE EC TO BREAK OFF RELATIONS WITH A  
PARTICULAR STATE.A SUGGESTION FROM DUTCH SOCIALIST  
PATIJN THAT THE EC FREEZE RELATIONS WITH UGANDA,  
AS IT HAD DONE WITH GREECE UNDER THE COLONELS  
EVOKED CHEYSSON'S COMMENT THAT A POLICY OF ISOLATON  
OF UGANDA WAS NOT WORKABLE AND MIGHT MAKE MATTERS  
ONLY WORSE.THE ACP AGREEMENT,HE SAID,WAS IN  
ANY EVENT DIFFERENT FROM THE GREEK ASSOCIATION AGREE-  
MENT,WHICH CONTAINED " RELEVANT PREAMBULAR LANGUAGE."

3. WITH REGARD TO THE FUTURE,HOWEVER,CHEYSSON  
POINTED OUT THAT PROVISIONS CALLING FOR THE RESPECT  
OF HUMAN RIGHTS COULD BE INCLUDED IN THE COMMISSION'S  
NEGOTIATING MANDATE WHEN THE ACP CONVENTION COMES  
UP FOR RENEGOTIATONS.WHEN UK CONSERVATIVE SPICER,  
WITH AN EYE ON ANGOLA,ASSERTED THAT NEW COUNTRIES  
SHOULD NOT BE ALLOWED TO JOIN THE ACP CONVENTION  
UNLESS THEY COULD SATISFY EXISTING MEMBERS OF THEIR  
ACCEPTABILITY,CHEYSSON REMARKED THAT OF COURSE THE  
ENTRY OF NEW MEMBERS REQUIRES THE AGREEMENT OF ALL  
PARTIES TO THE CONVENTION.IN THE MEANTIME,HE SUGGESTED THAT  
THE PARLIAMENTARIANS MIGHT CONSIDER SETTING UP A JOINT LEGISLATIVE  
COMMITTEE COMPOSED OF EC AND ACP PARLIAMENTARIANS TO PRESS THEIR  
CONCERNS ABOUT THE HUMAN RIGHTS PROBLEM.  
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## Message Attributes

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**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
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**TAGS:** SHUM, UG, EEC, EP  
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